



Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee

Provider Participation and Advancement Workgroup Meeting Minutes Summary

December 14, 2015

1:00 – 3:00pm

Attendees: Kim Hodge, Christy Prulhiere, Kofi Darku, Monty Hulse, Andrea Zimmerman, Kathy Frank, Maddie Solomon, Lacey Kottkamp, Ann Gabbert, Melanie Brizzi, Amanda Lopez, Kyle Wehmann; *On the phone:* Madeline Baker, Kristin Hines, Liane Nickey, Deb Hughes, Lucinda Nord, and Jen Drake (guest)

Key Topics Discussed

ELAC Updates: Amanda Lopez

- Encouraged everyone to attend ELAC's Annual Kickoff Meeting on January 14, 2016 from 10am – 4pm at Wayne Township Preschool.

Revised Work Plan and Timeline: Amanda Lopez

- Workgroups will complete their work plan and priorities at the January Kickoff Meeting.

Indiana ECE Collaborations List: Lucinda Nord

- Reviewed the latest iteration
- Discussed potential categories and methods for “tiering” the local collaborations that have been identified.
- Christy shared the four categories of community readiness from the Illinois Action for Children's [framework](#) for assessing early childhood partnerships.
- There was consensus among workgroup members not to categorize collaborations as “better than, or worse” than others, but rather by whether they exist along a continuum of engagement.
- Discussed the development of a “self” assessment tool for coalition-building that would most likely be completed with the help of an external facilitator.
- Amanda shared the Family Engagement Workgroup's process creating the FE Toolkit Self-Assessment. Members were able to decide on the assessment indicators with the help of a user-friendly IU software platform for voting on them, which narrowed a 100+ list down to 23 indicators.

Vanderburgh County Business Connection – Jen Drake

- Jen was invited to provide an overview of Vanderburgh County's local ECE coalition experience (*case study uploaded in Wiggio*).

Kevin Bain, Chairman

Robin Atkins
Melanie Brizzi

M. Cindy Frey
Charlie Geier

Connie Sherman
Christopher Stokes



Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee

- She shared that several key leaders (United Way, business, local foundation, and schools) were meeting at the same time to address education issues. The local funder, Welborn Baptist Foundation invited Ready Nation to host a summit with approx. 150 business and community leaders. This led to the establishment of the Business Roundtable, which successfully made the case for establishing an early childhood fund of \$1 million to support early childhood education investments with the long-term goal of workforce development. It also supports infrastructure (4C's, the local CCR&R, staffs the work and facilitates the local partnerships).
- *What are the things you could not have completed without this work?* A broad understanding of the importance of ECE investment among a cross-sector audience.
- *What is the intersection between state and local work?* The Business Roundtable was moving towards implementing a local pilot program without knowing the state-funded PreK programs (EEMG and OMY) were in the pipeline.
- Potential ECE collaboration equation equals: A commitment from the business sector + philanthropic community + nonprofit agency + ECE providers. Dedicated resources (i.e. staffing) are also a key component.
- Another key takeaway is having clear messaging to the business sector of exactly how ECE is an investment and they are the investors; then *saturation* of that message in the community.

IAN Update on strategies being used at school-age level – Monty Hulse

- Monty was asked to give a presentation on the priorities of the Indiana Afterschool Network (IAN) and possible alignment with ELAC. (see presentation uploaded in Wiggo.)
- Over the past two years, IAN has established program “Affiliates” across the state to strengthen the capacity and expand resources within the after school learning field.
- There are potential opportunities for intersection between ELAC and out-of-school-time (OST) programs and affiliates, particularly in the context of Birth to 3rd grade. One key takeaway is to start with “early wins” in this field.
- IAN has modified the Institute for Coalition Building’s “wheel” into a linear arrow graphic to put the process into simpler terms, which the workgroup liked.

ECE Coalition Invite List for Upcoming Meetings – Melanie Brizzi

- The idea is to carve out a time during each workgroup meeting to hear from a different local coalition about the experience of coalition-building within the community. The workgroup will create a list at the January meeting.

Tools and Resources for Local Coalition Building – Kofi Darku

- Kofi recommended reviewing the community collaboration tools that have been mentioned: [BUILD Initiative](#), [Michigan Office of Great Start](#), [Illinois Action for](#)

Kevin Bain, Chairman

Robin Atkins
Melanie Brizzi

M. Cindy Frey
Charlie Geier

Connie Sherman
Christopher Stokes



Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee

[Children](#), the [Institute for Coalition Building](#), the [Strive Network](#) and others (*uploaded in Wiggio*) to understand their benchmarks of success and determine best practices. After reaching consensus, the workgroup could then identify a contact person and inquire about potential guest presentations and/or trainings on the tool.

- Amanda suggested the workgroup focus on the goals that they want to accomplish related to the ECE Collaborations, which will drive the tools and resources that need to be developed. She proposed three possible options (noting there could be others!):
 1. Strengthen the coalitions that already exist (and helping those not as “strong/engaged” as others to become more).
 2. Identify areas across the state with the potential to build a coalition and assist their efforts.
 3. Use the data we have collected to identify areas with the highest need for high quality care (based on # of parents in need of care and lack of high quality options for families), and then work to begin the coalition-building process in those targeted communities.
 4. OR a combination of the above or other options.

Key Questions Raised

- What are the goals we want to tackle with identifying the coalition list?
- How do you get ECE on the radar of coalitions that are already engaged on other efforts?

Action Steps

1. Prior to January Kickoff Meeting, **all workgroup members** are asked to review excerpts from community collaboration tool presentations and toolkits that **Kyle** will upload to a separate Wiggio folder for your convenience.
2. **Project Support Staff** will follow up with Katie Herron at IU to inquire about what it would take to access the “voting” portal used for the Family Engagement Toolkit Self-Assessment process.

Next Meeting: Annual ELAC Kickoff Event, Thursday, January 14th 2016, 10am – 4pm EST

Location: Wayne Township Preschool, 31155 South High School Road, Indianapolis, IN

Kevin Bain, Chairman

Robin Atkins
Melanie Brizzi

M. Cindy Frey
Charlie Geier

Connie Sherman
Christopher Stokes